

Remarks:

The claims have been amended as indicated above. Support for the amendment to claims 10 and 34, from 85% identity to 75% identity may be found at page 20 of the specification where it is stated that persephin homologs of mammalian species are believed to have at least about 75% sequence identity with human persephin. As the sequences recited in the claims are human sequences, 75% identity is consistent with the description in the specification. The citation of amino acids at particular positions relative to SEQ ID NO:223 is supported in the specification at page 37, where those amino acids are described as being conserved residues. Thus, any of the claimed nucleic acid sequences will encode a polypeptide having the recited amino acids at the positions indicated.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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